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## **Qala E Naw Municipality Delivers Drainage Canal and Sidewalks for City Residents**

**QALA E NAW, AFGHANISTAN | JULY 25, 2011** — Residents of Qala E Naw municipality will experience a city with improved overall cleanliness and increased prospects for public health upon completion of a three-kilometer canal, culvert, and sidewalk construction project. Better water drainage will allow residents to walk through the city streets more easily, particularly in winter months.

Funded by USAID, the construction project, which was identified as a priority by the municipal office, includes plans to widen and cover the canal. Badghis community elders and sub-district heads were consulted during the identification of projects and the final project chosen in close cooperation with both groups.

Today, U.S. government officials joined Governor of Badghis H.E. Dilbar Jan Arman Shinwari, Mayor of Qala E Naw H.E. Abdul Khaliq Sorkhabi, respected officials from the Independent Directorate of Local Governance, municipal staff, and residents of Qala E Naw to celebrate the groundbreaking of the drainage canals and sidewalks municipal project in the city's center.

"We are pleased to partner with USAID on this significant project for the people of Qala E Naw. It will allow for better drainage and overall cleanliness in the city and provide short-term work and incomes for city residents, said Mayor Sorkhabi at the groundbreaking. "We look forward to providing more services, and we will look to residents to identify priority projects and tell us their concerns. Our goal is to foster an ongoing mutual exchange with all city residents."

USAID provided funding and engineering technical assistance for the new construction project through its Regional Afghan Municipalities Program for Urban Populations project, which began in the Western region provinces of Hirat, Badghis, Farah, and Ghor in 2011.

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